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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF Art Unit: 1618

ZANNOU ET AL. Examiner: Westerberg, Nissa M.

APPLICATION NO: 10/583,646

FILED: JUNE 20, 2006

FOR: PHARMACEUTICAL FORMULATIONS OF BISPHOSPHONATES

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

The Office Action of June 9, 2008 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on July 9, 2008. A five-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis in the amount of \$2350 for payment of the extension fee. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis.

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp. Patents Pharma One Health Plaza, Building 104 East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Date: December 9, 2008

Milagros A. Cepeda Attorney for Applicants Reg. No. 33,365

Phone No. (862) 778-9667